



Santa Cruz Natural Resource Conservation District

Santa Cruz Regular Meeting June 10, 2020 Final Minutes

Location: Teleconference: (515) 604-9099, access code: 645264651

Board Supervisors & Clerk: Stephen Williams, Daniel Bell, Bill Schock, Fox Johnson (Absent), Dean Fish (Ed Center Director) Chris Postel (Clerk).

Agencies & Guests: Emilio Carrillo (Natural Resource Conservation Service -NRCS), Jackie Thomas and Josh Grace (Arizona State Land Department - ASLD).

Called to Order: 1:18 pm

Review/Approve February 26 & April 22 Minutes: The minutes were reviewed. It was moved by Dan Bell to approve the minutes. Bill Schock seconded it. The motion carried unanimously. 3-0.

Treasurer's Report: The checking account balances were: \$4,584.14 (State), \$2,186.18 (Education Center) and \$119,869.80 (Local). Reviewed financial reports. Bill Schock moved to accept and file the Treasurer's reports. Stephen Williams seconded it. The motion passed unanimously. 3-0.

Administration Update (Invoices): The Clerk's invoices for March to June were reviewed. It was moved by Dan Bell to approve the invoices (\$1,600). Bill Schock seconded it. The motion carried unanimously, 3-0.

Agency Updates:

- ASLD (Jackie Thomas, NRCD Program Manager & Josh Grace, Range Manager): Per Jackie Thomas, Fox Neville-Johnson's paperwork has been processed and Bill Shock's paperwork has been mailed to him. Bill Schock indicated that he has not received it in the mail. Jackie will investigate and re-send. The Plan of Work is due June 20 and the Annual Reports are due July 20. Per Josh Grace, he has a PhD from Texas A&M, Kingsville and started in the ASLD Tucson office two weeks ago. He is the Range Resource Area Manager for Southeastern Arizona..
- Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS – Emilio Carrillo - See Attached Report): Emilio Carrillo is the acting District Conservationist until August 29. Alvaro Campos is still on active duty until August 21. They have 3 ongoing conservation plans within the NRCD and 2 plans have been completed. Per the report, *"USDA Service Centers are open for business by phone appointment only. While staff will continue to come into the office, they will be working with our agriculture producers by phone and using email and online tools whenever possible."* Alisha Phipps, Brett Myers, and him are taking turns coming into and staffing the office. If you need to come into the office, please call ahead time and inform them of your requested day/time.

OLD BUSINESS

Supervisor Appointment Update: Per Dan Bell, Andy Jackson is still interested in being on the board and needs to be contacted again.

Election Update: See Jackie Thomas's comments in the Agency Updates – ASLD section. Per Stephen Williams, the election was uncontested; so, Bill Schock will be placed in the elected supervisor position.

Monitoring (Jim Koweek) Update: Per Stephen Williams, he talked to Jim Koweek and providing a written summary was not part of his contract. He talked to Brett Myers (NRCS) and they could probably provide a written summary. Per Bill Schock, Jim was to do monitoring in addition to NRCS monitoring. It was suggested that maybe Jim could provide a 10 minute update during a meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Review & Approve 2020 State Land Reports:

- 3 Request for Funds Reports: The reports were reviewed and Bill Schock's title needs to be changed to Vice Chairman. It was moved by Bill Schock to approve the reports with the title change. Bill Dan Bell seconded it. The motion carried unanimously. 3-0.
- District Plan of Work (POW): The District POW needs to have monitoring added as a project and add the ADEQ and BLM as partners. It was moved by Bill Schock to approve the District POW with the changes. Bill Dan Bell seconded it. The motion carried unanimously. 3-0.
- Education Center Plan of Work (POW): Per Dean Fish, Santa Cruz Ranch Days are being planned to be held in the fall. Also, Project WET curriculum was delivered to the 4th grade classes. It was moved by Bill Schock to approve the Education Center POW as amended. Bill Dan Bell seconded it. The motion carried unanimously. 3-0.

Approve 2020 Supervisor Appointments: The Nomination form was reviewed and the signature line needs to be changed, removing Stephen Williams and adding Bill Schock's name. It was moved by Bill Schock to appoint Stephen Williams and Dan Bell to the supervisor positions and to accept the Nomination form as amended. Dan Bell seconded it. The motion carried unanimously, 3-0.

Supervisor & Clerk Reports:

- Chris Postel: The ACH forms were completed for direct deposit. Debrah Smith (AACD) assisted the District by obtaining an IRS employer identification number for the Santa Cruz Education Center. Per Betty Bailey (Seepage Control), NRCS Arizona has approved their sealant, ESS-13, as an approved EQIP practice. So, an email needs to be sent to the cooperators advising them that this product is a NRCD approved practice for sealing dirt tanks.
- Dan Bell: It's still very dry. Under the Corona Virus Food Assistance Program, you can get money from NRCS if you sold cattle from 1/15/20 to 4/15/20. The Bio Assessment is on-hold.
- Bill Schock: "Spike" is now available, he bought some in Willcox at Nutrien Ag Solutions. His calves are still slipping under the smooth bottom wire of the fence (too high). After attending the District's Water Rights Workshop, he investigated the status of his water rights and some needed to be updated. Now, his water rights are current.
- Stephen Williams: He won a rifle from the AACD gun raffle. The Arizona Land and Water Trust requested a letter of support for its RCCP grant application pertaining to the Sentinel Landscape. An AACD dues request was received. Last year, the District paid at the \$1,500 level. These 2 items should be added to the next meeting's agenda.

Call to the Public: None

Adjourn: The Meeting adjourned at 2:48 p.m. Bill Schock moved to adjourn the meeting. Dan Bell seconded it. The motion carried unanimously, 3-0

Next meeting on July 15, 2020 at 1:15 p.m.

Final Minutes Submitted by: Chris Postel, Santa Cruz NRCD Clerk

Date: July 15, 2020

Approval of Minutes: _____

Date: _____